



Space Station Truss Arrives at Marshall Center For Hardware Installation

A section of the International Space Station's backbone — the S1 Truss — arrived at the Marshall Center Saturday for installation of additional flight hardware.

The truss segment traveled from The Boeing Co. manufacturing facility in Huntington Beach, Calif., to Huntsville aboard NASA's Super Guppy aircraft.

The segment, which is 45 feet long and 15 feet wide, is at Marshall prior to its shipment to Kennedy Space Center, Fla., in September 1999.

Scheduled to fly on the Space Shuttle's 9-A International Space Station assembly mission in mid-2000, the truss will provide structural support for the Space Station's thermal control system, mobile transporter, camera and light operations and S-band communications.

It was manufactured by The Boeing Co. in Huntington Beach.



Photo by Danny Reeves

The International Space Station Truss assembly shown during the initial opening of NASA's Super Guppy aircraft prior to the truss' removal.

STS-88 Crew to visit Marshall today

Members of the crew of the STS-88 Space Shuttle mission, which began assembly in December 1998 of the International Space Station, will present mission highlights to Marshall employees and contractors at 1 p.m. today in Morris Auditorium. The astronauts will also present Silver Snoopy awards to Marshall Center employees in recognition of contributions to the success of the Space Shuttle program.

Three buses will be available for the event. There will be two runs made to have employees seated in Morris Auditorium by 12:30 p.m. At 2 p.m. the buses will leave Building 4200 to make two returns.

Bus number 1 will stop at buildings 4712, 4705 and 4708. It will also service buildings 4723, 4727, 4715, 4718 and 4707.

See STS-88 crew visit on page 3

"Commit to safety"

— Safety slogan submitted by
Lou Ann Kidd, SA34



Photos by Doug Stoffer

Marshall celebrates Black History Month

Marshall Center Deputy Director Carolyn Griner, top photo, left, and Black History Program committee chairwoman Carolyn Landry, right, greet Dr. Dorothy Huston, vice president of research and development at Alabama A&M University during the Center's Black History Month celebration Wednesday in Morris Auditorium. The Alabama A&M University Choir, bottom photo, also performed a mini-concert. The theme for the event was "The Legacy of African American Leadership for the Present and the Future."



Audit preparation continues

Marshall organizations are concluding ISO self-assessment

by Tom Dollman

Marshall organizations within the scope of the Center's Quality Management System are concluding a self-assessment process in preparation for an external ISO audit to be held in February. The activities focus on six specific elements: management responsibility, design control, inspection, measuring and test equipment; control of nonconforming product; internal quality audits; and corrective and preventative action.

The Center takes a multi-faceted approach to correct quality, process and product problems, as well as eliminate the cause of potential problems before they occur. The effectiveness of the Quality Management System can be directly correlated to the effectiveness of these systems.

Corrective action is necessary to handle problems with the Quality Management System itself, customer comments about the quality of Marshall Center products and services, product nonconformances, generic and systemic nonconformances, and the application of controls to ensure corrective action is taken and effective. Corrective action includes correcting a nonconformance, determining the root cause, i.e., underlying reason or cause of a nonconformance, and eliminating the cause to prevent recurrence.

Preventative action procedures detect, analyze and eliminate potential causes of nonconformances, defects, or other undesirable situations in order to prevent occurrence. Marshall organizations should implement a proactive approach to monitor, review and analyze applicable data to determine if preventative action is necessary. Organizations also should implement appropriate improvements and changes in process and design approaches.

MSFC-P17.1 "internal quality audits" documents checks on the implementation and operation of the Quality Management System to help confirm that it is being operated correctly and effectively. Internal quality audits are conducted on a regular basis and corrective action is required for any deficiencies found. The results of these audits form an integral part to management review activities.

The audit is an opportunity for the auditee to be "examined" by a group of Marshall employees with a different perspective. This enables the organization to discover and fix any overlooked disconnects between the quality requirements and how they operate. Non-auditee organizations also may be visited. As an auditor begins delving deeper into a particular issue, the auditor must interview providers of products and services to, and/or receive products and services from the auditee.

The success and improvement of the Quality Management System depends on individual participation in elements, corrective and preventative action, and internal quality audits.

The writer works in Marshall's Technology Transfer Office.



Photos by Emmett Given

Fish fry held for 1998 Astronaut candidates

1998 astronaut class member Nicholas Patrick, top photo, left, was among fellow class members who were guests at a fish fry last week prepared by the Space Shuttle Cook-out team at the Marshall Center. In bottom photo, Mrs. Art (Loa) Stephenson, left, chats with astronaut candidate Barbara Morgan during the fish fry.

Reception for Bill Taylor is Feb. 23

The retirement reception for Bill Taylor will be held 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, in the Building 4203 cafeteria. Ticket cost is \$7 and may be purchased from Judy Green in Building 4200, room 828. Previously purchased tickets will be accepted.

Volunteers sought for annual Center Easter Egg Hunt March 21

Volunteers are needed to help with the annual NASA Exchange-sponsored Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for 2 p.m. March 21. Children of Marshall employees and on-site contractors may participate. Contact Gena Marsh at 544-0128, or Donna Mahieux at 544-7511.



NASA photo

On Launch Pad 39A, the STS-88 crew includes from left, Mission Specialist James H. Newman, Pilot Frederick W. "Rick" Sturckow, Mission Commander Robert D. Cabana, and Mission Specialists Nancy J. Currie, Ph.D., Jerry L. Ross and Sergei Konstantinovich Krikalev, a Russian cosmonaut.

STS-88 crew visit

Continued from page 1

Bus no. 2 will stop at buildings 4666, 4650, 4663, 4487, 4610 and 4612. It will also service buildings 4475 and 4619.

Bus no. 3 will stop at buildings 4250, 4481, 4471 and 4485. It will also service buildings 4241, 4244, 4249, 4353, 4491 and 4483.



met at Marshall recently for strategic planning. From left, Charlie Houston, director of Marshall Center's Information Systems Services Office, greets NACC representative Pete Stollis of Johnson Space Center in Houston. NACC is a NASA resource for centralized management of information technology for International Business Machine-compatible mainframe computers and mid-tier server systems.

Center readies for severe weather preparedness week

As part of Severe Weather Preparedness Week beginning next Monday, the Marshall Center will participate in a state, county and city practice tornado drill. The drill will be announced over National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio.

An emergency Warning System announcement at Marshall will be made when Marshall's Emergency Operations Center receives the NOAA announcement. Center employees will be asked to evacuate to designated Protective Areas.

Marshall safety coordinators should wear identifying armbands during this drill and report any Emergency Warning System malfunctions, evacuation problems, protective area deficiencies, etc., to Joyce Davis, AB/11.



Photo by Doug Stoffer

HEMSI paramedics receive Director Awards

HEMSI paramedics Brenda Bradford, top photo, and Alison Boylen, bottom, received Director Commendation Awards recently from Marshall Center Director Art Stephenson. Bradford, a paramedic for 21 years with HEMS, and Boylen, a paramedic with HEMS for 15 years, were recognized for their life-saving efforts Jan. 8 at the Army Wellness Center.

Employee Ads

Miscellaneous

- ★ Bar stool, swivel, \$50. 971-2773
- ★ Two tickets, "The King and I" matinee, Feb. 28, VBC, center loge, \$30 each. 881-0278
- ★ Four Elton John tickets, none together. 880-2290
- ★ AKC toy poodles, various colors. 753-2278
- ★ Hay, mixed grasses, baled in October 1998, \$2 per bale in barn. 837-2461
- ★ Bronica ETRS camera equipment, studio lighting and backdrops. 722-0882
- ★ 17 cubic ft. Frigidaire refrigerator, white, \$100; recliner, mauve, \$50. 837-2122
- ★ Two tickets, "The King and I", Friday night, Feb. 26, VBC, center orchestra, \$40 ea. 721-9340
- ★ Single ticket to Elton John concert, VBC, mezzanine section 9, row K, \$53. 464-9014
- ★ TV satellite, 10' dish system with four months programming, \$500. 883-2529
- ★ GE undercounter dishwasher, \$85; gas log fireplace insert, fan circulation, \$300; basketball goal, \$50. 881-6040
- ★ Young, yellow female breeder canary, \$35. 534-5653

Vehicles

- ★ 1984 K5 Blazer, 6.2 diesel, 4-wheel drive, 48K miles, runs, drives, body wrecked. 482-2901
- ★ 1998 Dodge 1500 SLT truck, quad cab, 12K miles, V-8, all power, towing \$22,500. 882-5506
- ★ 1989 Ford Probe GL, 5-spd., 120K miles, \$2,100. 837-0085
- ★ 1993 Mustang, LX, 4 cyl., 5-spd., hatchback, sunroof, alloy wheels, 120K miles, A/C, \$2,950. 753-2278
- ★ 1995 Ford Windstar, GL, 82K miles, \$10,500. 852-3366 after 6 p.m.
- ★ 1991 Chrysler New Yorker, Fifth Avenue, V-6, automatic, all power, \$5,000. 852-6334
- ★ 1990 Plymouth Voyager SE van, 3-dr., sky blue, 7-passenger, FM/AM, cassette, power locks, \$3,000. 881-5237
- ★ 1997 Plymouth Grand Voyager SE, 22K miles, two sliding doors, V-6, CD, dual air, all power, \$19,800. 882-5506
- ★ 1996 Pontiac Transport, 7/8 passenger, PPL/PW, cruise, \$10,500 o.b.o. 564-6225
- ★ 1996 Chevy S-10 pickup, LS, extended cab, V-6, \$11,000 o.b.o. 776-4624

Wanted

- ★ Safe or fire-resistant filing cabinet w/ lock. 881-6040
- ★ Cultivator, Ryobi or Mantis type. 721-5609

Free

- ★ One spare Bridgestone tire, model #T125/90D16. 721-1303

MARSHALL STAR

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Center Announcements

- ✦ **AIAA luncheon** — American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics luncheon is today at the Redstone Officers' Club. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m. with a social, followed by lunch at 11:15 a.m. Center Director Art Stephenson will speak. **Contact:** Tony Springer at 544-1571 or Tom Hancock at 941-4002.
- ✦ **The Marshall Association** — The Marshall Association will meet at 11:30 a.m. today in the Bldg. 4610 cafeteria. Dr. Marty Weisskopf, project scientist in Marshall's Space Sciences Laboratory, will speak on the Chandra X-ray Observatory. Ticket cost is \$7 and reservations may be e-mailed to: efrem.hanson@msfc.nasa.gov
- ✦ **Association of Government Accountants** — The North Alabama Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants will meet today at the Marriott next to the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. The dinner meeting, also the chapter's Spouses Night, will begin with a social at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:15 p.m. John Alexander, chief of NASA Payroll and Personal Services, will speak at 7 p.m. Ticket cost is \$12 per person. For reservations, contact Sandra Seymour at 544-0099.
- ✦ **MESA Meeting** — The Marshall Engineers & Scientists Association (MESA) will hold its monthly membership meeting at 11:30 a.m. today in Bldg. 4471, room C-105. Refreshments will be served.
- ✦ **Shuttle Buddies** — The Shuttle Buddies will meet for breakfast at 9:15 a.m., Monday, Feb. 22 at Shoney's on University Drive West.
- ✦ **NASA Lunar Nooners Toastmasters** — The NASA Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club will meet at 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 23 in the Bldg. 4610 cafeteria conference room. All Marshall Center employees, contractors and friends are invited. **Contact:** Lee Johns at 544-5142
- ✦ **Redstone Toastmasters** — The Redstone Toastmasters Club holds weekly meetings at 6 p.m. Tuesdays at Morrison's Cafeteria, Madison Square Mall. **Contact:** Joe Jones at 461-0476
- ✦ **Volunteers sought** — The Equal Opportunity Office at Marshall is seeking volunteers to chair and/or serve on the 1999 Take Our Children to Work committee. Interested employees should call Alicia Beam at 544-2849 or e-mail to: alicia.beam@msfc.nasa.gov
- ✦ **Technical Conference** — The 4th annual Technical Conference of the Association for Configuration and Data Management will be held March 29-April 1 at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Ga. The conference theme is "The new Paradigm — Thinking Out of the Box." Complete details of the conference may be found at the following Web site: <http://www.acdm.org> For more information, **contact** Brenda Sutherland at 544-6552; or Brenda Kyle at 955-1589.
- ✦ **Blood Drive** — The American Red Cross will hold

a blood drive 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Friday at Bldg. 4752. Those whose last names begin with A-B should donate at 8 a.m.; C-F, 8:30 a.m.; G-H, 9 a.m.; I-L, 9:30 a.m.; M-O, 10 a.m.; P-S, 10:30 a.m.; and T-Z, 11 a.m. If you are unable to make your assigned appointment time, Red Cross representatives will be available until 1:30 p.m. and will be glad to assist you when you arrive.

- ✦ **NASA/AIAA Advanced Propulsion Workshop** — The 1999 NASA/American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Advanced Propulsion Workshop will be held April 5-8 at the Tom Bevell Center, Sparkman Drive, Huntsville. Marshall Center Director Art Stephenson will speak. Anyone interested in presenting an Advanced Propulsion Concept-related topic should e-mail an abstract of the presentation to Dr. Stephanie Leifer, technical chairperson, at: sleifer@mail1.jpl.nasa.gov

For more information, contact Dr. Chris Barret, general chairperson, at 544-7118, or e-mail to: Chris.Barret@msfc.nasa.gov

- ✦ **MARS Ballroom Dance Club** — The MARS Ballroom Dance Club will offer triple swing and foxtrot lessons 7-8 p.m. March 1, 8, 15 and 22 in the Parish Hall of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 8020 Whitesburg Drive. Lessons are available to MARS Ballroom Dance Club members and partners/guests at \$6 per person biweekly.

- ✦ **National Contract Management Association** — The Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association will host the 1999 National Educational Seminar 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Tuesday, March 16 at Trinity United Methodist Church, 607 Airport Road. This year's theme is "Innovative Contracting, Practical Approaches." Registration will begin at 8 a.m. **Contact:** Paula Cushman at 895-2804 or John Masson at 971-6424

- ✦ **Free symposium** — A symposium, "Space Exploration at the Millennium, In Remembrance of Carl Sagan," will be held Wednesday, March 24, at American University in Washington, D.C. The symposium is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Attendees may register at the following Web site: <http://www.SPACE2000.org>

This symposium will present key figures of 20th century creativity and achievement. It will offer a retrospective on one of this century's crowning accomplishments — the genesis of space exploration — and consider its future.

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